

ALABAMA SUCCESS STORY

QMS IMPLEMENTATION HELPS RETAIN SALES AND JOBS

ABOUT SUPREME CORES ALABAMA INC. Supreme Cores Alabama, Inc. provides a range of foundry services in the Southern United States. It supplies sand, gravel, clay, ceramic and refractory minerals, and mining and quarrying products. The company also offers sand cores and molds. They have more than three different core making processes, including No-Bake and Isocure. Its Shell cores help to eliminate shakeout issues and maintain thinwalled sections of the core while keeping dimensional stability. The company's cold box cores are used in various types of metal casting facilities, including steel, copper alloys, aluminum and iron.

THE CHALLENGE. Because of their work in the automotive market, Supreme Cores of Alabama implemented an ISO 9001:2008 quality management system (QMS). Shortly after implementing their system, they contracted with the Alabama Productivity Center (APC) in association with the Alabama Technology Network (ATN), part of the MEP National Network™, to assist with QMS maintenance activities. During 2016, they wanted to be one of the early implementers of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS. APC was again contracted with to update their system and assist their two facilities during the registration process. Supreme Cores of Alabama and Supreme Cores of the Carolinas received an unconditional recommendation for registration.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. In 2016, APC professional staff and student interns from the University of Alabama provided technical assistance to update their QMS in accordance with the new ISO 9001:2015 quality management system standard. Specific project details included identifying necessary changes to the system, reformatting the documentation to meet the standard requirements and train employees on the new system. A new simplified documentation system was created which included all requirements of the 2015 standard. These were then implemented at both Supreme Cores of Alabama and Supreme Cores of the Carolinas. APC then performed internal audits at both facilities to ensure conformance with the new standard and supported the client during the third party registration audit. Supreme Cores of Alabama and Supreme Cores of the Carolinas received an unconditional recommendation for registration to the ISO 9001:2015 QMS.

"The work that Alan Hill, Tom Morgan and interns from the APC did helped our organization receive its ISO 9001:2015 certification. This certification is required by several of our large clients and having it ensures continued business with these companies. It also allows us to go after new busy. We will continue using APC to support our process needs.

-Cristopher Grossman, Owner and Operations Manager of Supreme Cores of Alabama and Supreme Cores of the Carolinas

RESULTS



\$5,254,500 in new or retained sales



50 new or retained jobs



\$341,500 in new investment



\$35,000 in cost savings

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